

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01

IO-12 GAC-01 NEA-10 SCA-01 VO-03 H-02 CU-04 RSR-01

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R 071230 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6464

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, BU, US

SUBJ: US- BULGAR RELATIONS REVIEWED WITH AVRAMOV

REF: STATE 84115

1. MET WITH AMB. AVRAMOV MAY 7 PRIMARILY TO REVIEW PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING US- BULGAR RELATIONS BUT ALSO USED OPPORTUNITY MAKE REPRESENTATION PER REFTEL.
2. BEGAN BY REFERRING TO EMB. AIDE MEMOIRE OF FEB. 7 SETTING FORTH INITIAL STEPS TO TAKE TOWARDS IMPROVED RELATIONS. SAID EMB. PLEASED AT PROGRESS MADE BY EXPERTS ON CONSULAR CONVENTION AND HOPED TALKS COULD BE RESUMED SOON. AVRAMOV REPLIED HE THOUGHT CONVENTION COULD SOON BE WRAPPED UP.
3. I NEXT ASKED ABOUT IMPROVED VISA REGIME FOR EMB. NON- DIPLOMATIC STAFF AND AVRAMOV DODGED BY COMPLAINING ABOUT PERSONAL APPEARANCE REQUIREMENT FOR OBTAINING US VISA.
4. I THEN BROUGHT UP CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADMINISTRATION TRADE BILL SUBMITTED APRIL 10, POINTING OUT NO HEARINGS HELD YET AND AGAIN MENTIONING JACKSON AMENDMENT APPLICABILITY TO BULGARIA. I SAID IN VIEW OF GOB INTEREST IN LUKANOV TRIP WE FOUND IT DIFFICULT

UNDERSTAND WHY BULGARIAN MEDIA CONTINUED SPREAD FALSE AND
INFLAMMATORY ALLEGATIONS RE US ROLE IN BEIRUT RAID,
PARTICULARLY IN VIEW PAST PROBLEMS THIS STORY CAUSED ON
SCHEDULING OF LUKANOV TRIP. AVRAMOV SAID HE UNABLE
SEE HOW TWO COUNTRIES COULD DO BUSINESS IF LUKANOV TRIP
CALLED OFF EACH TIME UNFAVORABLE PRESS ARTICLE APPEARED.
I REPLIED WHAT US SIDE REFERRING TO WAS NOT UNFAVORABLE
TREATMENT OF US GENERALLY BUT SPECIFICALLY THE BEIRUT
RAID SLANDER WHICH WE BELIEVED INTENDED BY ITS INVENTORS
TO LEAD TO TERRORIST ATTACKS ON US CITIZENS AND INTERESTS.
AVRAMOV RATHER WEAKLY REPLIED GOB WAS AGAINST TERRORISM
AND HAD RECOMMENDED PRESS NOT PRINT ANYTHING WHICH MIGHT
ENCOURAGE TERRORIS M.

5. MEETING ENDED WITH EXCHANGE OF BANALITIES ON BULGARIAN
DELEGATION TO MADISON SEMINAR ON BULGARIAN STUDIES AND US
SUCCESS AT PLOVDIV SWIMMING MEET.
HOUSTON

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